

REMARKS

Claims 1, 8 and 15 are rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claims 1, 8 and 15 are also rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Examiner asserts that the written description does not provide support and enablement for the claimed first job including a template. The Examiner bases this rejection on the specification's description of a template being provided in the job file name, which the Examiner asserts to be external to the file.

Claims 1, 8 and 15 have been amended to recite "whether or not the first job *is associated with* a template" (emphasis added). The file name, which in the exemplary embodiment is described as including the template, is clearly associated with a file. The file, in turn, is included in a job. Thus, this feature is fully supported and enabled by the written description. Withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Claims 3 and 10 are rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 3 and 10 have been amended to recite "wherein the template comprises serial numbers set for the plurality of the files." As recited in the independent claims, the template is associated with the first job including a first file of the plurality of files. Thus, claims 3 and 10 are consistent with FIG. 3 and paragraphs [0041]-[0043] of the specification. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 4 and 11 are rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 4 and 11 have been amended to recite "the template comprises of a pair of a first symbol indicating that the first file is temporarily stored in the storage section and a second symbol indicating that files temporarily stored in the storage section are merged and printed." This feature is consistent with the description on FIG. 3 and paragraphs [0041] and [0050]-[0052] of the specification. The description of the template in paragraphs [0042]-[0043] is provided in reference to one exemplary embodiment of the invention and cannot be

used for interpretation of claims 4 and 11, which are directed to a second embodiment described in paragraphs [0050]-[0052]. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 15 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 7-8 and 14-15 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Catt, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0007167. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner asserts that Catt's teaching of an imposition template corresponds to the claimed "first job including a first file to be printed." Applicants respectfully disagree. The imposition template disclosed by Catt merely contains information for placement of page images 90a, including position, sequencing, orientation, etc. relative to the press sheet as well as placement of component pages for the spreads 90b. Catt, paragraph [0057]. There is no indication or suggestion in Catt that the imposition template itself is a print job. There is also no indication or suggestion in Catt that the imposition template includes data to be printed along with the page images 90a and the spreads 90b. In other words, the imposition template of Catt does not include a "first file to be printed." Thus, Catt fails to teach or suggest this feature.

This feature is also not taught by the page images 90 of Catt. Each set of page image 90 in Catt belong to a single print job. See Catt, paragraph [0052], lines 3-5. Catt does not teach or suggest merging a page image 90a or spread 90b from a first set of page images 90 with a page image 90a or spread 90b from a second set of page images 90. Thus, the page images 90 of Catt do not correspond to the claimed "plurality of files."

Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable. Claims 8 and 15 recite similar features as claim 1 and are also allowable. All other claims are allowable for their respective dependencies from an allowable claim.

In view of the above, each of the claims in this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. **204552032100**.

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Respectfully submitted,

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